

Country Historic Profile: PANAMA

World Bank Group Archives

Profile completed: November 4, 2020

Basic Historical Information

Membership days for each affiliate

Information is taken from the [World Bank Group membership page](#).

- IBRD: March 14, 1946
- IDA: September 1, 1961
- IFC: July 20, 1956
- MIGA: February 21, 1997
- ICSID: May 8, 1996

First loan(s)

Information is taken from the [Projects & Operations website](#).

- September 25, 1953: [Agricultural Machinery Project](#)

Resident Mission establishment

Information is taken from internal World Bank Group Archives resource.

- October 26, 1953

Photo Resources related to country

Hyperlink links to photos in the World Bank Group Archives' [Photo Catalog](#) for a given country. Digitization and description of archival photos are ongoing, and photos are added to the catalog regularly. In instances where the catalog contains no photos for a given country, check back frequently for additions, or contact the Archives for consultation by emailing archives@worldbank.org.

- [Historical photos related to Panama](#)

Project profiles related to country

Link is to a list in the [Projects & Operations website](#) of all projects approved, dropped, or in the pipeline for a given country. Each project links to a project profile that includes description, financial details, and lists of reports, archival record folders, and photos, when available. This can be helpful to study the evolution of the Bank's work in the country over time, and to identify notable projects that represent important shifts or moments in the country's history. Projects are also excellent examples of case

studies of how the Bank made an impact in a particular sector. The WBG Archives have original records and other information related to these projects. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

- [Panama project profiles in Projects & Operations](#)

Description of operational records in Archives Holdings

Archival records relating to Bank operations are described according to the ISAD(g) standard and are accessible in our [Archives Holdings catalog](#). Descriptions include lengthy organizational histories of the regional vice presidency responsible for operations in that region and a description of records created and transferred to the Archives by that vice presidency. The descriptions in the catalog can be helpful to understand the organizational context of Bank work, and to understand more about the content of the records in the Archives.

- [Records of the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Vice Presidency](#)

Chronology events

Events have been selected from the Archivists' Chronology, an 800+ page resource compiled by Bank Group archivists over the course of the institution's history. Events chosen include important firsts, milestones and other events that evidence the country's development history and/or its relationship with the World Bank Group. The Archivists' Chronology is accessible on [this page](#). This list of events can be helpful to determine if you'd like to dig deeper into any moments in the country's history of engagement with the Bank. The WBG Archives may have original records and other information about these events. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

Bretton Woods Conference; Representatives of Panama Attend

July 1-22, 1944

IBRD Articles of Agreement Signed by Panama

March 14, 1946

McCloy to Visit Central America, Including Panama

November 10, 1948

First Funding for Panama

September 25, 1953

IFC Articles of Agreement Signed by Panama

July 20, 1956

IDA Articles of Agreement Signed by Panama

September 1, 1961

UNSF-Bank Central America Telecommunications Study Includes Panama

November 20, 1962

ICSID Articles of Agreement Signed by Panama

May 8, 1996

MIGA Articles of Agreement Signed by Panama

February 21, 1997

Wolfensohn Visit to Central America Announced, to Include Panama

February 26, 1998

World Bank announces intention to open World Bank Office in Panama and Appoint a Representative

October 9, 2007

World Bank Group Timeline Events

Events are selected from the [World Bank Group Timeline](#). The Timeline is an online platform created by the Archives designed to highlight the important events in the Bank Group's history and to illuminate those events through a variety of archival records, photos, video and audio clips, oral history transcripts, reports, and more.

None.

Early Country Economic Reports

Reports have been selected from the [Documents & Reports website](#), a database of publicly available World Bank Group authored reports and publications dating to the opening of the Bank in 1946. Country economic reports that are selected here are, in many cases, some of the earliest economic studies ever published on Bank member countries. Reports discussing the whole economy of a country, rather than individual sectors, are prioritized in this list.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Panama - Report of the Bank mission to Panama : Report of the Bank mission to Panama | June 30, 1952 |
| Panama - Economic report | September 30, 1953 |
| Panama - Current economic position and prospects | March 31, 1955 |
| Panama - Public finance | May 1, 1957 |
| Panama - Some aspects of the economy | May 31, 1957 |
| Panama - Current economic position and prospects | March 31, 1960 |
| Panama - Current economic situation and prospects | December 31, 1961 |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Panama - Current economic position and prospects | July 31, 1965 |
| Panama - Current economic position and prospects | February 19, 1970 |
| Panama - Current economic position and prospects | February 28, 1970 |
| Panama - Memorandum on recent economic developments and prospects | July 31, 1971 |
| Panama - Updating report on the economy | August 31, 1972 |
| Panama - Report on the economy (Vol. 2) : Technical notes on public finance | February 13, 1973 |
| Panama - Report on the economy (Vol. 4) : Statistics | February 13, 1973 |
| Panama - Report on the economy : Main report | February 13, 1973 |
| Panama - Report on the economy (Vol. 3) : Agriculture | February 13, 1973 |
| Panama - Updating report of the economy (Vol. 2) : Statistical Appendix | May 13, 1976 |
| Panama - Updating report of the economy : Main Report | May 13, 1976 |
| Panama - Development in the 1980's - special economic report (Vol. 2) : Statistical Appendix | July 20, 1979 |
| Panama - Development in the 1980's - special economic report : Main report | July 20, 1979 |

Country Assistance Strategies

The list is based on a similar list compiled by the World Bank's Secretary's staff. Introduced in 1990 and replaced by the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) in 2014, the CAS is an overview of each borrowing country's current economic situation and contains a discussion of its development challenges, prospects, and project-planning. CASs were often initially published as part of project documents but later on were published as standalone documents.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Panama - Country assistance strategy | December 28, 1994 |
| Panama - Country assistance strategy | October 29, 1998 |
| Panama - Interim Strategy Note | August 30, 2005 |
| Panama - Country Partnership Strategy for the period FY 2008 -2010 | September 7, 2007 |
| Panama - Country partnership strategy FY08-10: progress report | March 16, 2009 |
| Panama - Country partnership strategy for FY2011-2014 | August 24, 2010 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Panama - Country partnership strategy for the period FY11-14: Panama - Country Partnership Strategy for the period FY11-14 | March 5, 2013 |
| Panama - Country partnership framework for the period FY15-FY21 | March 2, 2015 |
| Panama - Performance and learning review of the country partnership framework for the period FY15-FY21 | June 8, 2018 |

Staff Newsletters

Resources have been selected from the World Bank Group's [Documents & Reports website](#). The World Bank has produced a staff newsletter since 1947. The publication changed its name twice: from International Bank Notes to Bank Notes in 1971 and then to Bank's World in 1982. The newsletter moved online in 2000 and physical publication ceased. In addition to offering news relating to Bank operations and country development, the newsletters were intended to foster a sense of community among staff by highlighting social events, marriages and births, the arrival of new staff, recreational events, favorite cooking recipes submitted by staff, and features on different aspects of staff's home country and culture.

| | | |
|---|------------------|----------------------------|
| International Bank Notes -- Vol. 9, Iss. 6 | June 1, 1955 | "Assignment in Panama" |
| International Bank Notes -- Vol. 12, Iss. 1-2 | February 1, 1958 | Panama - The storage silo" |
| Bank Notes -- Vol. 2, Iss. 7 | May 1, 1973 | "Aviation loans climbing" |

Oral histories

Oral histories are selected from the World Bank Group Archives' [Oral History website](#). The site contains transcripts of oral history interviews with departed staff and, in lesser number, Executive Directors and other individuals affiliated with or impacted by the World Bank Group. Interviews were conducted as part of an ongoing effort by the Archives to collect the personal stories and reflections of Bank Group staff. A portion of the interviews was conducted as research for publications. Each transcript provides a valuable first-person account of Bank activities and decision-making from the very beginning of its operations.

None.

Online exhibits

Online exhibits are authored by the World Bank Group staff and are accessible on both the Archives' [external site](#) and as a [series of older exhibits](#) in the Documents & Reports website. Exhibits focus on notable personalities and accomplishments in the Bank Group's history.

None.

Executive Directors

The list is based on the World Bank Group [Board of Directors website](#). The country following the name of each ED indicates their nationality.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|--|
| MOLLER, Victor (Chile) | May 7, 1946 | October 8, 1948 |
| BARREDA-MOLLER, Jose, (Peru) | November 1, 1948 | October 31, 1950 |
| DIEZ, Manuel Jose (Panama) | November 1, 1950 | October 31, 1952 |
| MACHADO, Luis (Cuba) | November 1, 1952 | October 31, 1956 |
| MACHADO, Luis (Cuba) | November 1, 1956 | October 31, 1958 |
| MACHADO, Luis (Cuba) | November 1, 1958 | October 31, 1962 |
| MACHADO, Luis (Cuba) | November 1, 1962 | October 31, 1970 |
| LAJOUS-Martinez, Adrian (Mexico) | November 1, 1970 | October 31, 1972 |
| UGUETO, Luis, (Venezuela) | November 1, 1972 | June 15, 1974 |
| GUARNIERI, Roberto, (Venezuela) | June 16, 1974 | October 31, 1974 |
| GAVIDIA Hidalgo, Vicente Amado, (El Salvador) | November 1, 1974 | October 31, 1976 |
| PESQUEIRA, Eduardo (Mexico) | November 1, 1976 | October 31, 1978 |
| MAYOBRE, Eduardo (Venezuela) | November 1, 1978 | October 31, 1980 |
| MUNS, Joaquin, (Spain) | November 1, 1980 | October 31, 1982 |
| AYALA-GONZALEZ, Patricio, (Mexico) | November 1, 1982 | October 31, 1984 |
| GONZALEZ, Leonor F. de (Venezuela) | November 1, 1984 | October 31, 1986 |
| RUBIO, Mercedes (Spain) | November 1, 1986 | December 11, 1988 |
| PINTO, Jorge, (Mexico) | December 12, 1988 | October 31, 1990 |
| NAIM, Moises (Venezuela) | November 1, 1990 | October 31, 1992 |
| TERRAZAS, Jorge, (Mexico) | November 1, 1994 | October 31, 1996 |
| DEL BUFALO, Enzo (Venezuela) | November 1, 1996 | October 31, 1998 |
| PORTUGAL, Murilo, (Brazil) | November 1, 1998 | October 31, 2000 |
| RUIZ, Jaime, (Colombia) | November 1, 2000 | October 31, 2002, PD to November 8, 2002 |
| BIER, Amaury, (Brazil) | November 1, 2002 | January 5, 2004 PD to January 9, 2004 |
| CANUTO, Otaviano, (Brazil) | January 5, 2004 | October 31, 2006 |
| CANUTO, Otaviano, (Brazil) | November 1, 2006 | May 31, 2007 |
| STUDART, Rogerio, (Brazil) | June 20, 2007 | October 31, 2008 |
| BOTERO, JORGE (Colombia) | November 1, 2008 | April 8, 2009 PD to April 19, 2009 |
| RENTERIA, Carolina, (also: RENTERIA RODRIGUEZ, Carolina), (Colombia) | April 9, 2009 | October 31, 2010 |
| STUDART, Rogerio, (Brazil) | November 1, 2010 | October 31, 2012 |
| TAN, Roberto (Philippines) | November 1, 2012 | October 31, 2014 |
| SILVEIRA, Antonio Henrique, (also: PINHEIRO SILVEIRA, Antonio Herique), (Brazil) | November 1, 2014 | June 30, 2016 |
| CANUTO, Otaviano, (Brazil) | July 1, 2016 | October 31, 2018 PD to November 7, 2018 |
| KANCZUK, Fabio, (Brazil) | November 1, 2018 | December 3, 2019 |
| WEINTRAUB, Abraham, (Brazil) | (blank) | present |

For More Information

If you would like information or guidance on accessing more historic sources, we invite you to contact us by emailing archives@worldbank.org.